



Minutes of 2. ERIC Meeting September 2017

Online Meeting held via Facebook
September 28th, 2017 – 20:00 pm EET

Agenda

1. Welcome by President Justin
2. European Rotaract Directory - Updates from Secretary Paul
3. Updates from Vice President Lucky
4. CR Dinner & Country Booths - Updates from President Justin
5. Pricing bylaws - Updates from CR Denmark Itzy
6. Financial status - Updates from Treasurer Matthieu
7. Make ERIC a legal entity - Updates from President Justin
8. Board member clause - Updates from Secretary Paul

1. Welcome by President Justin

Justin - President:

"Welcome to our last meeting before the REM! Firstly, thank you to everyone who is participating, asking questions and communicating all our initiatives/events. We finally wrap up Secret Santa. If you had any issues or did not receive your gift, please message me and like this message if you want to start playing a new game. We have a lot of exciting things to discuss but before we get into them, I would like to show appreciation to some people. "

"A big thank you to Lucky and Susana for organizing the first webinar. Thanks to everyone who attended, I believe over 2k people have watched so far! Imagine how good the REM workshops and training will be. Thank you Paul & the CRs who have supported the directory initiative! How many countries are we now? 11? Excellent!

Thanks to the whole marketing team – especially the social media girls Mafalda and Susana who keep achieving great things! Last week our Instagram hit 1k followers! Please help them by posting more and sharing pictures! Moreover, thanks to the newsletter team, we have over 1k reads so far and tons of CRs and Rotaract Clubs submitting projects! Susana would like to share something with you now."

Susana - Marketing Officer:

"I have a surprise for you! Do you know when Facebook allows you to change your picture to support something? We are going to do the same for the REM! "

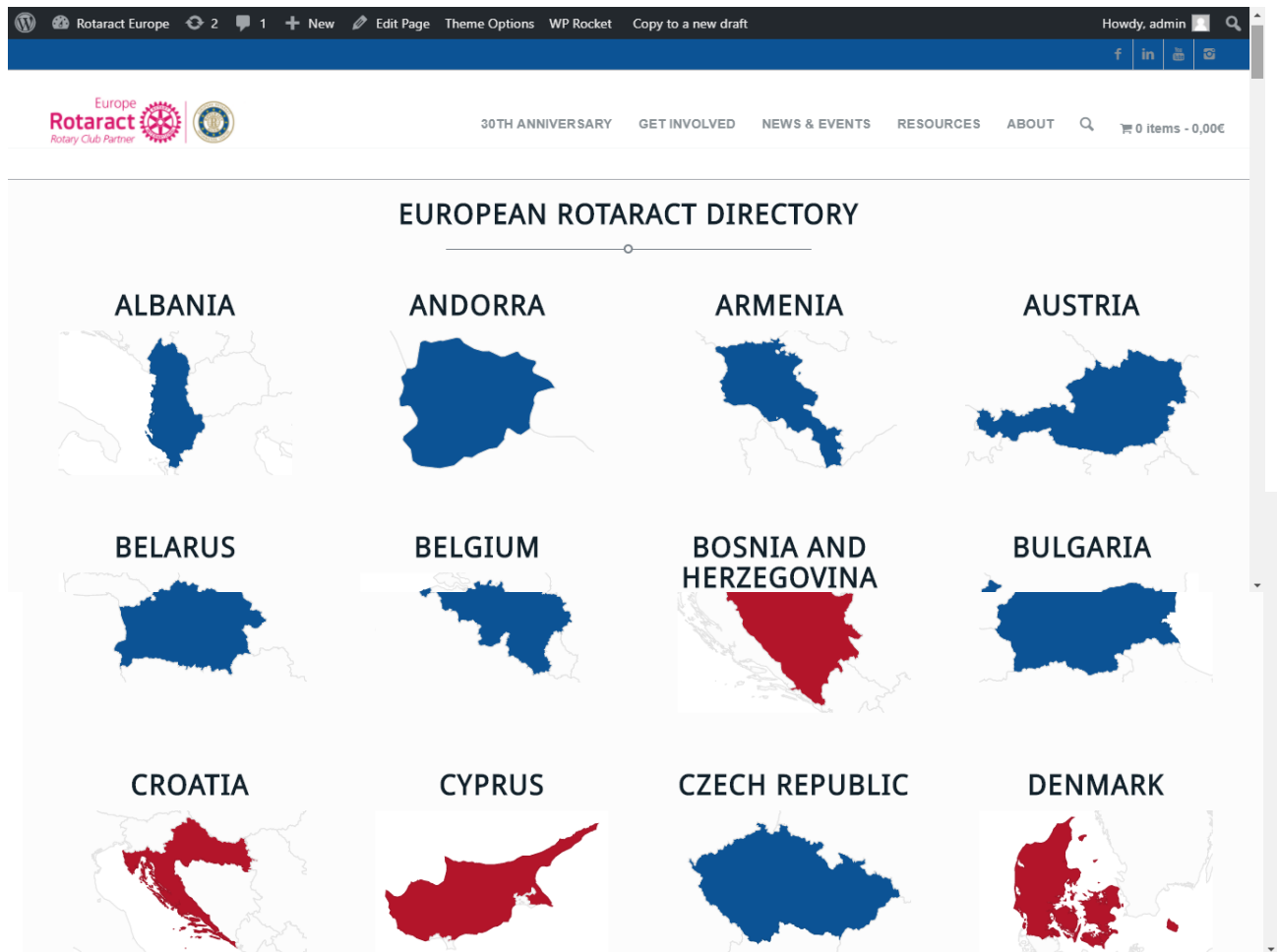


2. European Rotaract Directory - Updates from Secretary Paul

"Here are the latest news regarding the European Rotaract Directory. You have all received an email from me with the kind request of signing the CR Privacy Agreement in order for ERIC to avoid any privacy problems. 13 countries have signed it so far.

Cyprus, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Denmark, Hungary, Russia, Malta, San Marino, Slovenia, Poland, Germany, Czech Republic & Slovakia THANK YOU for your cooperation and fast response! But what does this really mean regarding the upcoming REM next week?

Here you have screenshots with the page of the European Directory which is going to be presented officially next week during our meeting. "




"The countries that have already signed the consent form and have filled out the online directory link, are going to be presented and are in RED. The rest of the countries in blue are not going to have a linked page with their directory.

Here is an example of a country with a completed directory page: Cyprus. You have all the information there as well as a cool sentence that was written by the CR and describes each country. "


Rotaract Europe 2 1 + New Edit Page Theme Options WP Rocket Copy to a new draft Howdy, admin

Europe Rotaract Rotary Club Partner 30TH ANNIVERSARY GET INVOLVED NEWS & EVENTS RESOURCES ABOUT 0 Items - 0,00€



CYPRUS

The Jewel of the Mediterranean. A country which stands at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa and full of beauty and rich history.



1
ERIC District

10
ERIC Rotaract Clubs

ROTARACT DISTRICT	DRR 2017/18	DISTRICT CONTACT
2452	Mohd Al Haddad	

NAME	ROTARY DISTRICT	CITY	PRESIDENT 2017/18	CONTACT
Rotaract Club Kyrenia Liman	2452	Kyrenia	Hüseyin Ünü	huseyin.unlu@outlook.com
Rotaract Club Kyrenia St. Hilarion	2452	Kyrenia	Nihan Yusufoglu	nihanyusufoglu@gmail.com
Rotaract Club Larnaca Kilton	2452	Larnaca	Maria Theophanous	martheo@gmail.com
Rotaract Club Limassol Amathusia	2452	Limassol	Ermos Christodoulou	iErmoc@gmail.com
Rotaract Club Limassol Berengaria Cosmopolitan	2452	Limassol	Raymond Matta	raymond_matta_1990@hotmail.com
Rotaract Club Nicosia	2452	Nicosia	Charis Charalambous	chcharalambos@hotmail.com
Rotaract Club Nicosia Aspelia	2452	Nicosia	Alexandros Khetab	alexandros.khetab@gmail.com
Rotaract Club Nicosia Ledra	2452	Nicosia	Amalia Myrianthous	amaliacy@hotmail.com
Rotaract Club Nicosia Sarayönü	2452	Nicosia	Hilal Durmuş	hilaldurmus1@gmail.com
Rotaract Club University of	2452	Nicosia	Thanos Theodorakopoulos	Ath.theodorakopoulos

"Please, for the rest of the CRs, fill out the directory link and for the ones that can, sign the privacy form so that we can proceed with the rest of the countries. Unfortunately Switzerland has denied this procedure, therefore the country will remain inactive in the directory of our website. All in all, we started well but we have a long way ahead ladies and gents!"

3. Updates from Vice President Lucky

Lucky - Vice President:

"WORKSHOPS: The final result is here! We will have three workshops: - MACRO "Youth making a difference" with Brittany Arthur, and it will be about the power of youth in making a difference especially in the green sector - MICRO "I feel Slovenia" with two talents of the Slovenian economic panorama, the inventor of Bitstamp and a fine maker, it will be about the economy of Slovenia, especially in the green sector, and yes there will be a wine tasting - NANO "Meditation and contact with nature" with a business coach that will teach us how to feel the nature, and ourselves, again.

MACRO and NANO will take place on Friday from 13 to 15 pm, MICRO on Saturday from 13 to 15om. You'll find this weekend all info and registration form here:

<http://www.rotaracteuropa.eu/rem-ljubljana-workshops>

Please, try to involve as many people as possible to the workshops! Having 90 people involved would be REALLY great, if we see that the demand is higher we can think about a solution, please do your best to promote them!

CR TRAINING: As said before, and as written in the last timetable that David sent: I want to remind you that we will have a CR training workshop on Saturday from 15 to 17 pm. I promise it won't be that long and you'll have all the time to prepare for the gala. BE THERE PLEASE ♥ Every further detail about it is a surprise!

And finally, please let me introduce you to the coolest possibility to make a difference that we will have during the REM: The ForestApp! "



"This app has been developed to help people stay focused on work, study, or real social interaction - basically, staying away from your phone.

If you have the app active and you don't use your phone, you'll grow a tree (many trees) and collect virtual money. Every 2500 coins collected, the user can plant a tree in real life, thanks to the partnership with an NGO.

For the REM Ljubljana, we are partner of them as well: they created for us ONE SINGLE ACCOUNT that we can all log into. Using the credentials that we will give you, you'll be

able to use the app, focus on real chats with the Rotaractors at the REM, listen to the ERIC conference, the speakers at the workshops or be VERY FOCUSED during the CR training!

By using the app, you'll grow trees and all the coins will go into our ERIC account. The result? We will collect enough money to PLANT REAL TREES. How many will we plant? It's up to you!"

4. CR Dinner & Country Booth - Updates from President Justin

Justin - President:

CR dinner: The meal options should be sent out by Mina or David. The +1's must pay for themselves. Seating arrangements will be made by Mafalda.

Country booths: As you can see in the agenda, on Friday during the opening ceremony at 8 pm we will have the country booths. The country booths will be a unique opportunity to get to know the typical food, drinks and other traditions of most of the 46 countries involved in the ERIC. Ever since the idea for the country booths came up, they are among one of the most popular events on every Rotaract conference. And to be honest, it is way more than just tasting! Be prepared to meet a lot of new people and hear about the upcoming Rotaract events all over the world in the most amazing interior at the Ljubljana Castle. Do not worry about glasses and plates, we will take care of everything. Just be sure that you bring some good mood, a thirsty throat and an empty stomach!"

5. Pricing bylaws - Updates from CR Denmark Itzy

Itzy - CR Denmark:

"Today in the afternoon I sent 2 presentations that basically summed up the survey that you took and the proposal from it. A majority voted for elimination of tiers with price limitation and including accommodation in spite of the hotel category. Then we need to set the price limitation

For this there's the other presentation where I explain how to do it. The prices established previous years were done by using objective variables and using the whole population (country) for the analysis.

But to get a more accurate price limitation for HOC teams to have a price range to work with a different focus needs to be taken. And this is the "Rotaractor sample" where we take into account yes some objective variables but focusing above all on what Rotaractors are willing to pay for attending an international event. In order to develop this concrete analysis I need the help of all you. I know you like surveys, so I have created one with the different questions I would like you to answer! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QYSTQLW>
We will try to get the most accurate price limitations and every country will be able to participate in hosting an event. Hopefully this can be done by REM Vilnius to start testing."

6. Financial status - Updates from Treasurer Matthieu

Matthieu - Treasurer:

"Good evening everyone,

Just wanted to say thank you to everyone involved in the Finance & Sponsorship Committee. Things are moving forward even if we cannot get sponsorship until the legal entity is not created. We will be selling raffle tickets during REM gala next week. The prize is a package for REM Vilnius. Increasing the ERIC Fee is I think normal since the prices of the packages raised during the last 5 year but not the ERIC fee. This is one of the few solutions we want to create for future Boards, but there are also few other ones.

It's why I would like to come back to my proposal. As Treasurer I'm responsible for the finances of our MDIO, and I'm not ready for failure. Last Board had a 1500EUR deficit at the end of the year even if they planned 2000EUR profit at the beginning of the year (and this is the budget that was approved by a vote.) So their result was 3500EUR worse than expected.

Regarding 2017/2018:

For now our planned deficit for is 5000EUR (3000EUR if we raise ERIC fee for REM Vilnius and EuCo Antwerp)

So we definitely need to get some income in order to keep our finances sustainable.

Partners and sponsors are great, but most of the time they sign contacts for 1 year and then disappear. My idea was to find a long term solution that can last forever. And as long as Rotaract will exist, we will have Rotarians ready to support us.

My idea is to ask everyone of you to contact your District Governor, send a presentation explaining what we are doing and why they should financially help us. The key argument in my opinion is that "Rotaract Europe - E.R.I.C. is creating future leaders for Rotary both on a District and International level".

If all the Governors agree and are ready to support us with a 50EUR donation (yes, fifty, only one zero), we can cover everything that we planned and even afford paying a plane ticket and accommodation for a very special guest speaker (Noble Prize Award for example).

As Rotaract Europe we are not making projects, but since we created the 4 themes maybe we could support Clubs not only via BESP and TCA, but giving rewards for participating in the 4 themes project or this year project - planting 30 000 trees for 30th anniversary (in 30 countries if possible!)

I already talked with few DGs, and I think they will be happy to help. What I suggest is doing a small database to keep track of what is going on between CRs and DGs regarding financial support for our MDIO. Please have a look:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1agozL7H8yowdbzoMPoYgwH-OS5U2c3rslab9ikBDNXI/edit?usp=sharing>

I think the Rotary Zone change that was voted by the RI Board is starting next year

But it's not that important for now. The Districts are what matter. Any opinions, questions or suggestions? If you don't have contact with your Rotary District Governor, I can find a way to help you."

Itzy - CR Denmark:

"This measure is a factual valuable solution to beat the current negative budget of more than 5000€ that we are facing, because sponsorship or financing/funding from Rotary doesn't give us

immediate solvency (current cash) to cover ERIC expenses. The reason of the 2€ (that ideally should be maintained during 2 years and from then on study how much should be increase every 2/3/4 years...) is that if we charge that amount from next year onwards we will be able to cover at least half of the deficit.

Moreover, if some other non-so-relevant expenses (this should be discussed at REM when the "statements" are shown) could be cut, this negative budget could be completely covered or remain with a low deficit.

Ideally this fee should be included in the total price of the package instead of carrying separate cash to pay it."

Gabi - CR Luxembourg:

"Can't we create a ERIC fee which is charged based on membership? Like rotary does? Even if it's a small amount, might be lots of money coming in."

Marius - CR Lithuania:

"If you place a fee on ERIC (membership, whatever) there will be a question you will have to defend - what you are giving to a country to pay for it. And now, everything is voluntary, so easy. "

Vedran - CR Croatia:

"I think that we need more details about where ERIC is spending the money exactly before going to the governors. "

Matthieu - Treasurer:

"I'm used to make presentation about CSR projects and going to find sponsors. I'm doing this for my Rotary Club and in my job.

Everything will be perfectly explained that the DG will probably not have any question. So they just have to make this decision and show some good will. "

7. Make ERIC a legal entity - Updates from President Justin

Justin - President:

"Regarding setting up an NGO, we had a long discussion with Jan, the founder of ERIC, during our Strategic Weekend and he will help us re-establish the ERIC entity in Brussels. In order to do this, we need to follow the Brussels NGO articles, which we have 90% prepared by using the articles provided to us by Jan and Ben (CR of Belgium).

These articles only cover the frame of the organization (i.e. positions of the organization, how a country joins ERIC, how voting in ERIC works, etc) and will be sent out to you after the meeting. Being an NGO would be great for our organization because it would provide us a lot of opportunities for funding, recognition and collaboration. At the same time it would protect us from liability with transactions, documentation. Additionally, as an NGO, we don't need to pay VAT which has become a big issue when buying polos/sweatshirts and other transactions ERIC makes."

8. Board member clause - Updates from Secretary Paul

Paul - Secretary:

"I prepared an example of how the bylaws regarding the removal of a member could look like, I would like you feedback on the following:

If a board member fails to participate for more than one month, he/she has to provide the board with a valid motivation of absence.

If, after two months, the board member continues to be absent, the Executive board has the right to cast a vote and with the majority in favor, decide for the removal of the above mentioned board member. Afterwards, the Executive board is obligated to launch a new vote for the replacement of the removed member. The same procedure applies in the case of inappropriate and non-Rotarian behavior or actions that could harm the organization and its work."

This is my proposal regarding the problem that we had at the beginning of the year, a modified version should also include the CRs if needed. What do you think?"

Itzy - CR Denmark:

"I don't agree And I will send the reason why. I noted it down and I will send you a screenshot because I don't want to write it. This is my opinion on this Board clause: "

Board member clause: I don't agree with it plus it needs to be more specific.

"If a board member fails to participate for more than one month, he/she has to provide the board with a valid motivation of absence. What do you exactly mean by "fails to participate"? Not joining the meetings? Not developing their work in which way? Not communicating? It sounds pretty ambiguous to me. There could be tons of factors that could affect an absence like family issues, sickness, studies...it is very subjective. I think it needs specification though.

If, after two months, the board member continues to be absent, the Executive board has the right to cast a vote and with the majority in favour, decide for the removal of the above mentioned board member. Afterwards, the Executive board is obligated to launch a new vote for the replacement of the removed member. I don't think it would be appropriate that ONLY the Executive Board vote on this matter I think it should be WHOLE Board including the CRs to vote on this matter. Then what's the role of the CRs if we can't exercise our right to vote? We vote for a new Executive Board every year, then we should ALSO be entitled to decide if an Executive Board member should be expelled from the Executive Board or not. The same procedure applies in the case of inappropriate and non-Rotarian behaviour or actions that could harm the organisation and its work". Which are those behaviours and actions? You need to bear in mind the cultural differences here. Maybe what some people consider inappropriate for others it is just superfluous. I think it would be good to be as precise as possible on this matter to avoid misinterpretations and conflicts.

Paul - Secretary:

"Thank you Itzy for your productive reply! Let us form this paragraph in a way that suits us all, I am open to all proposals and edits. I agree with Itzy, we can and should make it much more specific, and yes, I agree that the CRs should have a word as well! We can work on this paragraph till next week and make it better."

Gabi - CR Luxembourg:

"I agree with some of the arguments of Itzy, the more specific and detailed we are, the less space for distorted interpretations we leave. "

Marius - CR Lithuania:

"You know, it is all about perspective, I understand this organization as a CR organization, that has administrative board for organizing work, but making it a controlling object - that breaks the purpose of it in our as CR's view, it is like we "CR's" created it for helping us and now it wants to control us. But that is just my own view. The board is changing every year, so let us not start making it a beast that will evolve fast into something that we don't like, who knows what will next board be and do with power they have."

Matthieu - Treasurer:

"Marius, we need such rules anyways if we want to create a legal entity. We just need the right lawyer and probably an external commission."

Justin - President:

"Matt is correct."

Gabi - CR Luxembourg:

"I disagree a little bit with that Marius, maybe a bit of control enables the board to do a better and more coordinated work. Otherwise 30 people having to reach an agreement for everything might lead to total chaos."

Marius - CR Lithuania:

"Also true Gabi, but balance should be met and CR's, in my opinion, goes first."

Vedran - CRC Croatia:

"I think it's a bit logical if we have to vote the board in, that we have to vote someone out hear everyone's arguments and vote online about it."

Gabi - CR Luxembourg:

"Hmm, I think it can be a good discussion Marius. Democracy is very good, but also extremely slow, so that's why we vote for representatives and let them do their work based on a plan."

Justin - President:

"At the end of the day our goals are the same."

Francois - CR France:

"goals are the same but maybe not the ways to achieve them... "

Lucky - Vice President:

"The HOC and the board worked a lot to make this REM a memorable event. And yes, there's a lot of parties and this is cool, but the REM IS WAY MORE. Please take it as an occasion to learn something beautiful and, really, make a difference.

Let's make of it not just an event but something more impactful: participate, and tell ALL your members to do it, to workshops, social projects, this ForestApp thing. It is very important for us, and for the image of Rotaract in Europe. Thank you!"

**The big majority of the comments during the meeting were corrected if necessary (Grammar & Syntax) and pasted on the minutes. You can find all comments on our Facebook chat-room.*

The meeting ended at 23:10 pm EET.

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